

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 09938 01 OF 03 311908Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05
CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DLOS-09
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-02 DOE-15 FMC-01
TRSE-00 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 /148 W
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P R 311848Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8991
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LISBON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 03 BONN 09938

PASS NMFS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS, ICNAF, XN, PO, CA
SUBJECT: 28TH ICNAF ANNUAL MEETING AND RELATED
FISHERIES ISSUES

SUMMARY: DISCUSSION OF ICNAF-NAFO TRANSITIONAL
ARRANGEMENTS DURING FIRST TWO DAYS OF ICNAF MEETING
INDICATE DELEGATIONS ARE PROCEEDING ON HYPOTHESIS
NAFO CONVENTION WILL ENTER INTO FORCE IN EARLY 1979.
THE EEC AND SPAIN, HOWEVER, APPEAR RELUCTANT TO COMMIT
THEMSELVES PRIOR TO OUTCOME OF ALLOCATION DECISIONS
AT THIS MEETING. INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONSULTATIONS
BETWEEN CANADA AND OTHER ICNAF MEMBERS ARE
SCHEDULED LATER THIS WEEK. U.S. ICNAF DEL HAS
PRIVATELY HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH ICNAF MEMBER COUNTRIES
RE OTHER FISHERY ISSUES OF INTEREST TO DEPARTMENT.
THESE INCLUDE PLANS TO HOLD TECHNICAL TALKS RE POSSIBLE
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PAGE 02 BONN 09938 01 OF 03 311908Z

GIFA'S WITH DENMARK AND PORTUGAL, DISCUSSION WITH
PORTUGUESE RE THEIR OBJECTION TO ICCAT BLUEFIN TUNA
REGS, AND SOVIET PLANS TO INVITE U.S. DEL TO MOSCOW
TO NEGOTIATE ACCESS AGREEMENT FOR KAMCHATKA
POLLACK. END SUMMARY.

1. TRANSITION OF ICNAF TO NAFO.

A. OPENING PLENARY SESSION ON MAY 30 MOVED QUICKLY TO DISCUSSION OF TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FROM INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES ICNAF TO THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES ORGANIZATION (NAFO). CHAIRMAN OF INFORMAL MEETING OF EXPERTS, HELD IN OTTAWA, MAY 1-2, REPORTED THAT CONSENSUS HAD BEEN REACHED ON ALL BUT TWO ITEMS IN THE NAFO TEXT WHICH IS CURRENTLY BEING CIRCULATED BY CANADA TO PARTICIPANTS THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS. CHAIRMAN REFUSED TO SPECULATE AS TO WHETHER THERE WOULD BE CONSENSUS ON ALL ITEMS FOLLOWING INFORMAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONSULTATIONS ON ALLOCATIONS WITHIN CANADIAN 200-MILE ZONE BEING HELD CONCURRENTLY WITH 28TH ICNAF ANNUAL MEETING.

B. ALTHOUGH EEC HAS INDICATED PRIVATELY TO U.S. DEL THAT IT WILL ACCEPT THE CURRENT TEXT THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT EEC INTENDS TO SEE HOW IT FARES IN THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONSULTATIONS WITH CANADA PRIOR TO COMMITMENT. SPAIN HAS INDICATED THAT ITS WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT NAFO TEXT SUBSTANTIALLY DEPENDS ON OUTCOME OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONSULTATIONS. OTHER DELS ARE PROCEEDING ON EXPECTATION THAT NAFO CONVENTION WILL ENTER INTO FORCE IN 1979 WITH ICNAF AND NAFO CONVENTIONS TO EXIST CONCURRENTLY DURING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BONN 09938 01 OF 03 311908Z

TRANSITION PERIOD.

C. FOLLOWING INITIAL PLENARY, PANEL 3 (TO WHICH ALL MEMBERS NOW BELONG) MET DURING AFTERNOON OF MAY 30 AND ON MAY 31 TO CONSIDER TAC'S AND COUNTRY ALLOCATIONS OF COD, REDFISH AND AMERICAN PLAICE IN DIVISION 3M. INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONSULTATIONS WERE EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON MAY 31 BUT HAVE BEEN DELAYED BECAUSE OF LENGTHY DEBATE OVER CANADIAN PROPOSALS FOR INCREASES IN ITS QUOTAS OF 3M STOCKS AND PROCEDURE FOR DIVIDING REMAINDER AMONG OTHER COUNTRIES. EEC HAS OPPOSED SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES FOR CANADA OF INTERNATIONAL STOCKS.

2. U.S.-DANISH GIFA.

A. U.S. DEL WILL HOLD DISCUSSIONS THURSDAY OR FRIDAY WITH DANISH DEL ON POSSIBLE GIFA ON BEHALF OF FAROE ISLANDERS.

B. U.S. DEL HAS STRESSED TO DANISH REP FACT THAT AGREEMENT WOULD NOT GUARANTEE ANY FISH FOR THE FAROE ISLANDERS AND THAT PROSPECTS FOR ANY ALLOCATIONS ARE UNCERTAIN. DANISH REP

HAS INDICATED THAT DENMARK UNDERSTANDS THE SITUATION.

C. DANISH REP HAS ALSO INDICATED DESIRE TO HAVE

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PAGE 01 BONN 09938 02 OF 03 311912Z

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FAROESE SIGN ANY AGREEMENT ALONG WITH DENMARK, PRESUMABLY AS A PARTY, ALTHOUGH THIS IS UNCLEAR. U.S. DEL HAS EXPLAINED OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT DENMARK HAS THE MANDATE TO CONDUCT THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE FAROE ISLANDS AND HAS INDICATED DOUBT WHETHER INCLUSION OF FAROESE AS A SIGNATORY AND/OR PARTY WOULD BE APPROPRIATE. THIS ISSUE WILL BE EXPLORED IN DEPTH DURING THE TECHNICAL TALKS.

3. U.S.-PORTUGUESE GIFA.

A. CAPTAIN J.C. CARDOSO, DIRECTOR GENERAL, FISHERIES ADMINISTRATION, REQUESTED U.S. ICNAF DEL TO MEET WITH PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY REPS ON JUNE 8 IN LISBON TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE U.S.-GOP GOVERNING INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES AGREEMENT (GIFA).

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PAGE 02 BONN 09938 02 OF 03 311912Z

B. U.S. DEL EMPHASIZED THAT A GIFA DOES NOT GUARANTEE FOREIGN FISHING AND IN VIEW OF 1) THE SHARP DECLINE IN SURPLUSES AVAILABLE FOR FOREIGN FISHING, 2) THE FACT THAT PRESENTLY IDENTIFIED SURPLUSES ARE FULLY UTILIZED, AND 3) THE ABSENCE OF A TRADITIONAL GOP FISHERY OFF U.S. COAST, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE GOP WOULD RECEIVE ANY ALLOCATIONS IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE. U.S. DEL NOTED DESIRABILITY TO U.S. OF INCLUDING A MINUTE TO THIS EFFECT IN GIFA TO AVOID POSSIBLE MISUNDERSTANDINGS.

C. GOP REPS INDICATED THEY FULLY UNDERSTOOD GIFA DOES NOT ASSURE ACCESS AND GOP DOES NOT EXPECT TO RECEIVE ALLOCATIONS UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES. HOWEVER, GOP DESIRES TO NEGOTIATE GIFA TO ENABLE POSSIBLE FUTURE FISHERY IF CIRCUMSTANCES PERMIT. ALSO, GOP EXPRESSED INTEREST IN JOINT-VENTURE POSSIBILITIES UTILIZING U.S. CATCHER VESSELS AND FOREIGN PROCESSING VESSELS, IF PERMITTED UNDER U.S. LAW AND REGS FOR COUNTRIES HAVING A GOP NOTED IT WAS AWARE OF FUTURE UNCERTAINTY OF SUCH JOINT-VENTURES BEING APPROVED IN LIGHT OF PENDING U.S. LEGISLATION. HOWEVER, GOP DESIRES TO HAVE A GIFA IN CASE PERMITS FOR PROCESSING VESSELS MIGHT EVENTUALLY BE POSSIBLE.

D. CARDOSO EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF HOLDING GIFA TALKS IN LISBON SO OTHER GOP REPS CAN PARTICIPATE AND PORTUGUESE INDUSTRY REPS CAN HEAR FOR THEMSELVES THAT A GIFA DOES NOT GUARANTEE A FISHERY AND THAT IT IS UNLIKELY THAT GOP WILL RECEIVE ANY ALLOCATIONS OFF U.S. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BONN 09938 02 OF 03 311912Z

COAST.

4. PORTUGUESE OBJECTION TO ICCAT BLUEFIN TUNA REGULATIONS.

A. DURING DISCUSSIONS WITH CARDOSO, U.S. DEL ASKED REASON FOR PORTUGUESE OBJECTION TO ICCAT BLUEFIN TUNA REGULATIONS. ANSWERS INDICATED THAT PORTUGAL TAKES POSITION THAT COASTAL STATE HAS JURISDICTION IN ITS 200-MILE ZONE

OVER TUNA, AND BASES THIS POSITION ON ARTICLE
64 OF THE ICNT.

B. CARDOSO EXPLAINED THAT PORTUGAL OBJECTED TO
BLUEFIN REGULATION BECAUSE PORTUGAL COULD NOT
ACCEPT FREEZE ON LEVELS OF NATIONAL TAKE.
PORTUGAL WANTS TO BUILD UP ITS TUNA FISHERIES
BY CUTTING DOWN ON AMOUNT TAKEN BY OTHER
COUNTRIES WITHIN ITS 200-MILE ZONE IF
NECESSARY. CARDOSO INDICATED THAT PORTUGAL
INTENDS TO DECLARE SURPLUS AND ISSUE PERMITS
FOR TUNA FISHING WITHIN ITS 200-MILE ZONE.
AN AGREEMENT WITH JAPAN WHICH WOULD PERMIT
ACCESS TO PORTUGAL'S 200-MILE ZONE FOR JAPANESE
VESSELS FISHING TUNA HAS NEARLY BEEN CONCLUDED.
NEGOTIATIONS ARE UNDERWAY WITH THE EEC AND
SPAIN, ALTHOUGH BOTH ARE APPARENTLY RELUCTANT
TO ACCEPT PORTUGAL'S ASSERTION OF JURISDICTION
OVER TUNA.

C. WHEN ASKED HOW COASTAL STATE MANAGEMENT COULD
BE RECONCILED WITH ICCAT, CARDOSO MAINTAINED
THAT ANY PORTUGUESE QUOTAS COMBINED WITH OTHER
TAKE WITHIN THE ICCAT AREA WOULD BE WITHIN THE
RECENT ANNUAL LEVEL LIMITS SET BY ICCAT, BUT
DID NOT EXPLAIN HOW COORDINATION COULD BE
ACCOMPLISHED.

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PAGE 04 BONN 09938 02 OF 03 311912Z

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PAGE 01 BONN 09938 03 OF 03 311912Z

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 03 OF 03 BONN 09938

D. U.S. DEL EXPRESSED CONCERN AND DISAGREEMENT
WITH PORTUGUESE POSITION ON TUNA.

5. CANADIAN DEL EXPRESSED ITS WILLINGNESS TO ALLOW
U.S. DEL TO OBSERVE INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONSULTATIONS
WITH RESPECT TO ALLOCATIONS WITHIN CANADIAN 200-MILE
ZONE. U.S. DEL DECLINED TO ATTEND EST IT BE DRAWN IN-
TO DISCUSSION OF U.S. ALLOCATIONS IN CANADIAN ZONE
OR LEST ITS UNWILLINGNESS TO COMMENT BE
INTERPRETED AS LACK OF U.S. INTEREST IN SUCH
ALLOCATIONS. U.S. DEL STATED THAT IT WOULD
BE INAPPROPRIATE, IN CONTEXT OF U.S.-
CANADA NEGOTIATIONS, TO DISCUSS U.S. ALLOCATIONS
OFF CANADA WITHIN MULTILATERAL ICNAF FRAMEWORK.
CANADA AGREED WITH U.S. ASSESSMENT, BUT STATED
U.S. WAS WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE, AND NO STOCKS OF
INTEREST TO U.S. WOULD BE DISCUSSED. IN
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PAGE 02 BONN 09938 03 OF 03 311912Z

RESPONSE, U.S. DEL ASKED IF U.S. REDFISH QUOTA
IN AREAS 2 AND 3K COVERED IN 1977 AND 1978
INTERIM AGREEMENTS WOULD BE DISCUSSED. CANADA
REPLIED THAT 1978 INTERIM DOES NOT PROVIDE THE U.S.
A REDFISH QUOTA IN THOSE AREAS, BUT AGREED TO
REEXAMINE SITUATION IN VIEW OF U.S. DELS
OPINION TO CONTRARY. (COMMENT: U.S. DEL ALSO FELT
ITS ATTENDANCE MIGHT LEAD TO CANADIAN REQUEST TO
OBSERVE DURING U.S. CONSULTATIONS WITH THIRD
COUNTRIES ON ALLOCATIONS IN U.S. ZONE. END COMMENT).

6. U.S.-SOVIET NEGOTIATIONS RE ALASKA POLLOCK.
V.M. KAMENTSEV, MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, INFORMED
U.S. ICNAF DEL THAT U.S.S.R. WILL PROVIDE FORMAL
INVITATION TO DEPT. IN NEXT FEW DAYS TO MEET IN
U.S.S.R. TO NEGOTIATE AGREEMENT FOR U.S. ACCESS OFF
KAMCHATKA TO FISH ALASKA POLLOCK. SOVIETS EXPRESSED
DESIRE TO HOLD NEGOTIATIONS AND SIGN THE AGREEMENT
IN MOSCOW, PREFERABLY IN JULY OR EARLY AUGUST.
SOVIETS PLAN TO INVITE U.S. TEAM TO VISIT FISHERY

FACILITIES OUTSIDE MOSCOW WHILE AGREEMENT IS
FINALIZED FOR SIGNATURE.
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